first time in the Budget for 2006-07 only. The estimated receipts in PSK for 2006-07 are Rs. 8746 crore, out of which Rs. 5831 crore .are allocated to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rs. 2915 crore to Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDM). Allocations to States are not being made separately against the Cess. Assistance to them is released under individual schemes related to Elementary Education in accordance with the guidelines of such schemes and against their respective budgetary allocations.

Guidelines for disbursement of Educational Loans

4007. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether there are guidelines issued by the Ministry for disbursement of educational loans for study, in India and abroad; and

(b) what are the securities demanded by the banks for sanctioning educational loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Indian Banks' Association has formulated guidelines for Education Loan in consultation with the Government.

(b) As per the Scheme, no security or margin is required for loan upto Rs. 4 lakh. For loans of above Rs. 4 lakh and upto Rs. 7.5 lakh, a suitable third party guarantee is required to be provided and for loans above Rs. 7.5 lakhs, collateral security of suitable value or co-obligation of parents/guardian/third party along with the assignment of future income of the student for payment of installments is required.

Educational Loans for Students

4008. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) how much amount has totally been disbursed as educational loans for students who have opted to pursue courses of study abroad in the last academic year; and

(b) what are the courses of study for which loans were availed by students?